App. F. IX-4

Previous References

1930-31
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File No. 46/30

Serial No. 1

Later References

P-7

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial No. 1

Part B for Sept 1930

SUBJECT

Circulars No 1243 dated the 19th August & No 15 dated the 22nd August 1930 from the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes

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General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. 46 of 1930.

Serial No.

DEWAN'S OFFICE 1453. 19. SEP. 1930

From the Private Secretary to His Highness
D.O. No. 508-D. 13-9-30
Forwards Circulars No 12 & 13 D
19-8-30 & No. 15 dated 22-8-30
from the Chancellor of the
Chamber of Princes
Chief Secretary's order on the P. LW
" Register put up.

[Circular No. 12 relates to Censoring of Telegrams by a Ruling Prince of Ch.

2) Circular No 13 is connected with the demise of certain Ruling Princes & the resolution passed by the Chamber condoling with the bereaved families

3) Circular No 15 relates to the acting as Pro Chancellor by H H the Maharao Saheb of Cutch in place of the Pro Chancellor, (Maharaja Saheb of Kashmir) going to England to the Indian Round Table Conference]

Subd

17/9 Cir 12 relates to the detention of telegrams at the request of Indian States

The request is to be communicated through British functionaries

GPR 17/9 (Chief Secy)

Dec 18/9/30

May be filed after perusal

WD 02553—50,000—GPB—8-7 30

CHIEF SECRETARY 18 SEP. 1930

NOTE—Contn. Sheet

No. 508
C3

PRIVATE SECRETARY MYSORE

CHIEF SECRETARY
P.P
15 SEP. 1930

The Palace,

Mysore, 13th September 1930.

CB. 999
17P46-30-1

Circular Nos.12 and 13 dated the 19th August and No.15, dated the 22nd August 1930, from the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes are forwarded with compliments to the Chief Secretary to the Government for favour of disposal.

Private Secretary to
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore.

13.9.30

CONFIDENTIAL.

Circular No. 12.

MOTIBAGH PALACE,
PATIALA.
19th August, 1930.

CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS.

YOUR HIGHNESS,

1. The censoring of telegrams handled by this Indian Telegraph Department is regulated by the provisions of sub-section (1) of section (5) of the Indian Telegraph Act, which reads as follows :—

> 5 (1) On the occurrence of any public emergency, or in the interest of the public safety, the Governor General in Council or a Local Government, or any officer specially authorised in this behalf by the Governor General in Council, may
>
> *(a)* take temporary possession of any telegraph established, maintained or worked by any person licensed under this Act; or
>
> *(b)* order that any message or class of messages to or from any person or class of persons or relating to any particular subject, brought for transmission by, or transmitted or receive by, any telegraph, shall not be transmitted, or shall be intercepted or detained, or disclosed to the Government or an officer thereof mentioned in the order.

Accordingly, whenever a Ruling Prince or a Chief desires to secure the censoring of telegrams handled by a British Telegraph office in State territory, the Government of India require that he should satisfy the 'public functionary' (vide list below), with whom he is concerned, that a public emergency has arisen or that the censoring of the telegram is necessary in the public interest. It is then open to the public functionary to pass orders under clause (b) of sub-section 1 of section 5 (quoted above) for the interception or detention of all or any telegraph messages or for the disclosure of their contents to such officers as may be mentioned in the order. The Officer so mentioned is required to be an officer of the British Government, but it is open to him, at his discretion, to communicate the contents of the messages to the Ruler or to any State official specially authorised in this behalf. This procedure has proved to be inconvenient, dilatory and therefore ineffective. It has been so described by the Standing Committee on legal and administrative grounds, and the matter is still under discussion between them and the Political Department of the Government of India, and its disposal may take some time. In the meantime it was urged by the Standing Committee at its last meetiag that without prejudice to the States' claim in this behalf and in view of the political situation in the country and its possible developments, the Government of India might issue confidential instructions to all public functionaries concerned, specially authorised by the Gevernment of India under section 5 of the Telegraph Act, to exercise their discretion liberally at the request of the States. On enquiry I have now learnt from the Political Secretary to the Government

of India that the public functionaries concerned have been instructed as desired and that their is no objection to the members and representative members of the Chamber being informed *confidentially* that this has been done. This is to inform Your Highness accordingly.

2. The public functionaries mentioned below are empowered under section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 to take action under that section.—

> The Governor-General in Council, the Governor in Council of Madras, the Governor in Council of Bompay, the Governor in Council of Bengal, the Governor in Council of Behar and Orissa, the Governor in Council of the United Provinces, the Governor in Council of the Punjab, the Governor in Council of Burma, the Governor in Council of Assam, the Governor in Council of the Central Provinces, the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, the Chief Commissioner of Ajmer, the Resident at Hyderabad, the Resident in Mysore, the Resident in Kashmir, the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana, the Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan, Agent to the Governor-General in the Punjab States, Agent to the Governor-General in the States of Western India, the Resident at Gwalior, the Resident at Baroda, and the Chief Commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and the Commissioner in Sind.

The relevant orders are to be signed by a Secretary to Government, or Local Administration, in the case of those of the public functionaries above named whose orders are usually conveyed by this channel. In the remaining cases the orders are to be personally signed by the public functionaries in question.

Trusting Your Highness is in the enjoyment of excellent health,

Yours very sincerely,
BHUPINDER SINGH,
Maharaja of Patiala,
Chancellor, Chamber of Princes,
(Narendra Mandal).

B. S. Press, Patiala.

Circular No. 13.

MOTIBAGH PALACE,
PATIALA.
19th August, 1930.

Your Highness,

Your Highness will remember that the Chamber, at its meetings in February last, adopted, among others, the following resolution:—

> "That the Chamber of Princes records its heart-felt sorrow at the lamentable demise of Their Highnesses the Maharaja Sahib of Bharatpur, the Maharaj-Rana of Jhalawar, the Raja Sahib of Lunawada and the Thakore Sahib of Rajkot together with the sense of the loss thereby sustained by the entire Order of Princes; and offers its sincerest sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families".

This resolution was conveyed to the quarters concerned, and the following reply has been received from His Highness the Maharaj-Rana of Jhalawar:—

> "Allow me to take this opportunity of reiterating my expressions of gratitude already conveyed in my telegram of 28th February to Your Highness and through you to other Brother Princes for the most sympathetic manner in which a resolution was passed at the last session of the Chamber of Princes condoling with me at the lamentable demise of my beloved father. I deeply appreciate their brotherly feelings and I need hardly say that their kind thoughts have not only granted me fortitude to stand the irreparable loss but have also inspired me with a spirit to spare no pains in the discharge of the new responsibilities that have devolved upon me, to the satisfaction of my brother Princes and to that of my beloved people. I have also to express my regret that owing to my having been on the move off and on, I could not make time to write this letter earlier, as I had intended to do.
>
> I shall be much thankful to Your Highness if this letter of mine is circulated among my brother Princes who were so kind as to sympathise with me in my sad bereavement."

Moreover, the Political Secretary to the Government of India has intimated to me that·

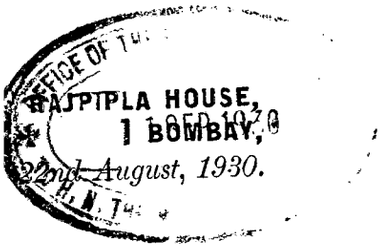
> "The Rajkot Darbar has asked that their deep sense of gratitude for the sympathy shown to them on the occasion of the sad demise of the late Thakore Saheb of Rajkot may be conveyed to H. E. the Viceroy and to the Chancellor and Members of the Chamber of Princes".

Hope this would find Your Highness in the enjoyment of excellent health.

Yours very sincerely,
BHUPINDER SINGH,
Maharaja of Patiala,
Chancellor, Chamber of Princes.
(Narendra Mandal)

B. S. PRESS, PATIALA.

Circular No. 15.



22nd August, 1930.

Your Highness,

I take this opportunity of informing Your Highness that as both His Highness the Maharaja Sahib of Kashmir, the Pro-Chancellor, and I are going to England, His Highness the Maharao Sahib of Cutch has kindly undertaken to act as Pro-Chancellor with effect from the 1st of September. I may also take this opportunity of saying that although the States' Delegation to the Round Table Conference individually and collectively will, while in London, do their very best to serve our common cause, should Your Highness wish to come to London, while the Delegation is there, I should be most happy to seek your valuable advice and arrange for you to participate in our informal meetings which, I hope, will begin from the 11th October.

Yours very sincerely,
BHUPINDER SINGH,
Maharaja of Patiala,
Chancellor, Chamber of Princes.
(Narendra Mandal.)

B. S. Press, Patiala.